

Report On **Internship as an Editorial Intern at *The New Nation***

By

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fulfillment of requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in English

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Declaration

It is hereby declared that

- 1.The internship report submitted is my own original work while completing a degree at Brac University.
- 2.The report does not contain material previously published or written by a third party, except where this is appropriately cited through full and accurate referencing.
- 3.The report does not contain material which has been accepted, or submitted, for any other degree or diploma at a university or other institution.
4. I have acknowledged all main sources of help.

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Chapter - 1

Introduction

During my childhood, I saw the elders of my family just after waking up in the morning, rushing to the door to collect the newspaper. Their zeal towards reading newspapers like a regular routine used to amaze me and make me wonder about what the newspaper actually contained. With age and education, I realised the value of those pages. Newspapers keep us informed and updated by letting us know the notable phenomena happening both at home and abroad. In my opinion, newspapers are a knowledge hub and a reflection of our current world.

I grew up reading the prominent newspapers of Bangladesh, “*Prothom Alo*” and “*The Daily Star*” because my father wanted to instil the habit of reading newspapers within me. That is why every morning I had to read at least one or two articles from the newspaper, whichever seemed interesting to me and stay updated. During those days, *Prothom Alo* used to have a page where they published literary pieces for children and as we had no other source of entertainment, I eagerly waited for the newspaper every morning. Those vibrant images of our daily lives, incidents occurring around the world and the political cartoons always fascinated me.

When I joined the ENH Department of BRACU, I pursued the stream Media and Cultural Studies as my interests mostly aligned with the changing world of media. With time, the newspaper industry changed a lot as now people's attention span has decreased so media houses focus on producing concise and less wordy news that will easily grab readers

attention. *The New Nation* newspaper has its online version as well ; however, most of my tasks were printed version based.

Chapter -2

A Brief History of *The New Nation*

The New Nation is the oldest English independent daily newspaper of Bangladesh, established right after the liberation war, in 1979 by Barrister Mainul Hosein. Back in the 90's, it was the only independent news daily in Bangladesh and almost for the last 45 years it has maintained its legacy by relentlessly serving this country , upholding truth and disseminating news to the mass population.



Figure 1 : Logo of *The New Nation*

During its initial stage it was published weekly, however, after three years of serving as a weekly, it transitioned to a daily newspaper in 1981, perceiving its growing demand and popularity. Among the three most prominent newspapers of the post-liberation period, *The New Nation* was the only English daily that was being operated by the private sector

independently . The other two newspapers were managed and patronised by the government. Hence, it offered immense possibilities for offering fresh perspectives.

Barrister Mainul Hosein, the founder and editor of *The New Nation* was tremendously inspired by his father Tofazzal Hossain Manik Miah. Tofazzal Hossain Manik Miah is a popular historical figure and a renowned journalist who played a significant role in building an independent nation . He contributed selflessly even in the post-liberation period of Bangladesh. He was the editor-in-chief of the Bengali newspaper Daily Ittefaq where Barrister Mainul Hosein worked as assistant editor under his father's guidance. Later, after the demise of Manik Mia, Barrister Mainul Hosein and his brother took over the Daily Ittefaq newspaper and Mainul Hosein became editor .Apart from the Daily Ittefaq, he built his own newspaper media house “*The New Nation*”. Both of these newspapers are owned and published by the Ittefaq Group of Publications Limited. The current chairperson of *The New Nation* is Saju Hossain and Md. Mokarram Hossain has been designated for the editor's position.

The New Nation has both a hardcopy and e-paper version of it. Along with the English version, *The New Nation* news portal has its Bengali version as well. A recent report says every month *The New Nation* circulates over seventeen thousand hard copies of it all over the country. A Facebook page for both English and Bengali versions is available to ensure its social media presence and availability. Like other daily newspapers, The New Nation contains twelve pages in each hardcopy and each page is allocated to cover a distinct category of news articles. The paper is divided into national, city, international, business, entertainment, sports and editorial sections. On special occasions for instance publication

anniversary or on any national occasion *The New Nation* circulates special supplements for its readers.

Daily activities at *The New Nation*

I joined *The New Nation* for my internship on 30th June 2025, as an editorial intern. During the internship period I had to attend office five days in a week covering five to six hours per day. I joined as an editorial intern therefore, my task was to edit news contents before getting published. I worked on several segments of *The New Nation* newspaper, such as, national , international and city pages. Nonetheless, the majority of my tasks were centred on the city page of *The New Nation*.

Farruk Khosru, the executive editor of *The New Nation*, was my internship supervisor, to whom I reported the daily tasks regularly. To have enough flexibility in the workplace and better communication scope during my internship period, my supervisor introduced me to a few senior co-workers who guided me throughout the internship journey. Joint Editor Shahriar Islam Shovon, Sub-editor Tanvir Ahammed and Inas Mahmuda were constantly present to guide and teach whenever any kind of assistance was needed. In the first few days of internship, Joint Editor Shahriar Islam Shovon advised to monitor international news portals such as BBC, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, Arab News, Reuters and filter down the news contents that fall perfectly within the proximity criteria among five news value factors. Those countries that are intricately

connected with Bangladesh in terms of geopolitics and have a huge impact on the Bangladeshi economy are the ones that will get priority in the newspaper.

Hence, implementing the theory of the five news value factors I selected news articles and regularly presented the list to senior co-workers. For national news, given instructions were to follow two online news portals — BSS (Bangladesh Shangbad Shangstha) and UNB (United Nations of Bangladesh) and select news based on their significance respectively. After the news collection procedure, editing and news formatting following the newspaper format of *The New Nation* was done.

In the process I was familiarised with various segments of a newspaper layout attributes such as masthead, lead, sub-heading, byline, lead news etc. As newspapers contain at least ten to twelve pages, there are separate pages for the national, international, city, business, sports and entertainment sections. Therefore, while sorting news it is necessary to identify which news content falls under which category. My job was to identify all these categories while selecting news articles from online news portals. Throughout my internship period, I wrote two feature articles, one book review, and two news translations by myself. I edited a good number of national and international news articles, worked with press releases and crafted countless photograph captions and headlines for news articles.

Chapter - 4

My Internship Experience at *The New Nation*

Getting the internship opportunity at *The New Nation* was an incredible and overwhelming incident of my life. I feel honoured to be a part of the oldest national daily English newspaper of Bangladesh. As it was my first experience in the professional sphere of news media, this organisation trained me how news media houses regularly collect news, edit and publish it. While as a common citizen of this country we often consider a newspaper just a piece of paper filled with loads of information, after joining a news publishing organisation I identified a drastic shift in my perspectives. Now, I understand the values, emotion and moral obligations behind publishing all the news articles and stories. The effort journalists and editors ceaselessly put to collect information for each article is completely unimaginable. Keeping their existence in risk, these journalists and editors regularly serve news to people so that a citizen remains informed and conscious about their fundamental rights and phenomena taking place around .

By working closely in a news publishing organisation, I received the opportunity to gather first hand experience in this sector of media and journalism. In this whole internship journey every co-worker was enough kind and helpful. Especially my supervisor Farrukh Khosru sir and co-workers played the role of a support system till the end. My supervisor used to take the work updates at the end of the day and guide me for the further activities as well as topic selection for further assignments. Whenever he was available, he taught me the basics of journalism and editing rules and I carefully noted down every single detail he

mentioned. Due to this approach, instead of building a boss and junior employee(intern) relationship, the relationship built here was more likely a mentor and student relationship in this whole journey.

I was assigned to work with several senior co-workers of mine who were mostly responsible for handling the City desk. In absence of the supervisor, Sub- editor of the city page, Inas Bin Mahmuda guided me with works. She instructed how new article sub-editings are done and crafting concise and polished captions. After submitting work, she immediately checked the submitted tasks and provided feedback for further corrections. The majority of the time captions written by interns were checked by her. She was truly supportive the whole tenure and appreciated interns if interns performed well. After sorting and editing news for the city page, our submitted works got checked several times and she ensured that our writing standard matched the regular standard.

Tanvir Ahammad, sub-editor of the national page guided me in absence of the sub-editor of the city page. He also provided sample photographs to practice caption writing and suggested to monitor the other English daily newspapers' photo captions composing patterns. This suggestion and sample caption writing later helped me to grasp the sentence structure and wording pattern of caption writing. He demonstrated the method of using facts from different news articles by collecting them from different news portals and then creating a latest version of *The New Nation* through this combination. However, even though information is kept from different news portals, in the byline it is compulsory to mention “agency” as this article is a combination of information from different news agencies.

Other senior co-workers were equally helpful whenever I asked for any kind of assistance from them. Getting first hand experience in a news agency is far more unique and incomparable than merely studying theories in the classroom from academic books. The theories we discussed in our classrooms, witnessing them getting applied in a real life professional environment is something invaluable and cherished should be in memory for forever.

Chapter -5

Working as an Intern in the City Page

Newspapers have separate segments covering diverse topics like the national page, city page, international, business, sports, entertainment, editorial and opinion segment. After the National page, the City desk is the one that bears utmost significance. The first two pages are required for covering national news topics titled as national pages. After that, the City page comes, which is on the third page.

During the majority of this period, internship assignments were centred on City Page and working with the senior co-workers of the City page . Routined tasks were to collect and edit news for the City page. The senior co-workers were always there to assist and supervise work and edit articles. The City page in *The New Nation* newspaper generally covers the notable events and phenomena taking place around the city .

Political, social, cultural and student campus related events get covered here regularly. In this page, there are separate portions for distinct types of news contents. Types of articles it covers — three lead articles, conspectus, and snippets. For the first few days, the only task was to monitor how news arrangement and editing is done. After that, new assignments included collecting news articles for the City page from news portals such as BSS (Bangladesh Shangbad Shangsha) and UNB (United Nations Bangladesh) and this news selection was completely focused on Dhaka city.



Figure 11 : The City page

Two news articles from both the City and the National page to demonstrate how these news articles differ from each other . Even by reading the headlines for once , one will be able to identify the categorical difference here.



Figure 12 : Article from the National page

The Figure 12 covers news regarding the Authoritarian regimes control over Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and immediate actions to rescue the organisation from its grip. This news bears huge significance and measuring its urgency it has been placed in the National page.

Thoughts and planning need to bring positive changes: Info Secretary

City Desk

Mahbuba Farzana, Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, stated that in order to make promotional activities effective, public relations officers need to bring positive changes in their thinking and planning. She made this remark during a discussion and exchange of views held on Wednesday at the conference room of the Department of Information Secretariat. The event was organised to make the activities of the Department of Information more visible.

During the event, the Secretary said that the Department of Information and the public relations officers of the ministry are playing an effective role in promoting the government's policies, activities, development initiatives, and successes, states a press release.

Mahbuba Farzana, Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,

Emphasising the expansion of promotional activities, she said that besides promotion through traditional media, the ministry's activities must be made visible on social media as well

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relations officers of the ministry are playing an effective role in promoting the government's policies, activities, development initiatives, and successes.

Praised the work of the public relations officers, she said that they are implementing their respective ministries' promotional activities with dedication. No complaints have been heard against public relations officers from any ministry, which is a positive sign.

Figure 13 : Article from the City page

Whereas the article of Figure 13 covers a statement from the Information secretary of Bangladesh. Compared to the first article it carries less value but not so less that it has to be covered in the last page so it will be covered in the City page .

The City page covers three lead articles; their hierarchy is decided according to their importance. The first lead news article is the one that is covered with utmost importance. This is the longest article running across 3-4 columns in the City page. First lead news headlines are composed using the largest font size in the city page. Usually it is placed at the top middle position of the paper with a visual illustration.

Rapid rise of house rents pinches city dwellers

City Desk

Dhaka, the fourth largest city in the world with a population of over 24 million people, faces a growing and significant challenge. The densely populated megacity in Bangladesh sees its population expand on a daily basis with people frequently migrating to Dhaka.

The main driving forces behind migration to the city are poverty, job search, and societal pressure, says UNB.

According to the Population and Housing Census 2011, over 12 million people lived in the Dhaka division. But the Population and Housing Census 2022 reported that nowadays 44 million people live in the Dhaka division. So, the population growth rate at 1.74 per cent in the division now stands. Between 1991 and 2001, population growth was 4.15 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.

The tenant-landlord burden

The rental housing market in Dhaka is defined by a severe power imbalance between landlords and tenants, but the crisis runs deeper than a simple lack of regulation. It is fuelled by a vicious cycle where rampant land speculation directly

translates into an unbearable burden for the city's millions of renters.

Increasing migration to cities and high population growth have resulted in a rapid decline of affordable urban land, causing house prices to exceed the reach of middle- and low-income households. This is not just due to a housing shortage but because land itself has been trans-

formed into a high-yield financial asset. Land prices in Dhaka, for example, increased by an unprecedented 2,700 per cent between 2000 and 2021, turning property into a speculative commodity rather than basic shelter.

In recent years, the cost of housing in Dhaka has

been rising for clear financial reasons. With gains from land speculation far exceeding returns from traditional financial systems, a flood of capital including a huge portion of the nation's 'black money' and a significant amount of foreign remittance, pours into the real estate market, driving prices ever higher. Consequently, house rent has been rising dramatically.

The economic cost of high rent

When high rents absorb a significant portion of the household income, leaving less available for consumption, investment or other expenses, it reduces the overall multiplier effect of the money circulating through the economy.

DHAKA'S HOUSING CRISIS

- ◆ Urban planning initiatives
- ◆ Housing regulation gaps
- ◆ Administrative instability
- ◆ Overpopulation pressure

Figure 14 : First lead from the City page

An editorial intern's task is to collect lead news articles from BSS and UNB maintaining the criteria of the city page, then editing and combining information from both news portals to make the article both informative and interesting. However, before combining the information, rechecking all the facts and eliminating insignificant information from the bottom of the main article is another fundamental responsibility of editing. After organising

all the information and making corrections, for instance changing word spelling from American to the British format and transforming sentences from passive to active structure, highlighting important facts and numerical data from the article is also being done in this segment. Important points are highlighted with bullet points and sometimes placed in the middle as the story. For instance, in Figure 14, a text box is used for the peak highlights of the article. These highlights provide readers a quick overview of the entire article at a glance. The lead article in the figure runs across 2 huge columns. As lead articles require space more than other articles in the City page, it is referred to as the lead story.

Taiyeb slams previous govt for tattered state of Teletalk

City Desk

Chief Adviser's Special Assistant on Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology Faiz Ahmad Taiyeb has slammed the fascist Awami League regime for the tattered condition of state-own mobile phone network operator Teletalk, saying they have left the company in a state of near-collapse due to the negligence.

"It's now become a serious stumbling block for us," lamented Taiyeb, mentioning that with just one-fifth the number of 2G towers and a mere tenth in 4G compared to private operators, Teletalk's skeletal infrastructure has crippled its ability to deliver quality voice and internet services, state BSS.

The special assistant elaborated the dilapidated condition of the Teletalk via his verified Facebook page yesterday, saying the lone mobile phone operator has been operating with less spectrum allocation than its competitors across the country.

Since its inception, he said, the operator has sought spectrum according to its needs at various times. However, considering the

overall subscriber base and network infrastructure of the country, Teletalk has not received proportionate allocation in any spectrum band compared to other operators. "Rather, it received significantly less and insufficient spectrum."

Faiz Ahmad Taiyeb said that despite a high public demand for Teletalk SIMs in the early days, the operator failed to acquire a significant number of subscribers over one and a half decades, which he attributed to its own weak management.

He added that the previous Awami League government had left Teletalk in a completely non-functional state, now which has appeared as a thorn in their throat.

He continued that providing a quality voice and internet service with such minimal number of towers is nearly impossible. Additionally, new problems have arisen in rural areas where Teletalk has no investment, leading to wastage of spectrum.

Faiz Ahmad Taiyeb said, "After we took charge, we found that Teletalk had no low-band spectrum for providing quality 4G service, only a small amount in mid-band, and no investment for utilizing upper mid-band spectrum."

Figure 15: Second lead from the City page

In contrast, the second lead articles run across 2 columns and these articles heading font size a bit shorter than the lead one and article of Figure 15 states that clearly. While editing, the story length is reduced from the bottom. The editing such as changing the introduction, using full forms of organisation at first and then later mentioning only the abbreviation of them— all these corrections are made while editing. As the editing is done in the City section ,

in the byline “City Desk” is used everywhere. Headlines are often changed.

12 youths, 4 orgs receive Nat'l Youth Award 2025

City Desk

A total of 16 individuals were given the National Youth Award 2025, including 12 in the category of successful self-employment and 4 in the category of youth organisers.

Adviser the Ministries of Youth and Sports and Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Asif Mahmud Shojib Bhuyain handed over the awards to the winners yesterday in a city hotel on the occasion of National and International Youth Day 2025, states BSS.

This year's Youth Day is being celebrated under the theme: “Youth Advancing Multilateral Cooperation, Through Technology and Partnership.”

Extending greetings on the National and International Youth Day, Asif Mahmud said that the youth of Bangladesh will play the most significant role in realizing the dream of building a new Bangladesh based on equality, civic dignity, justice, democracy, and prosperity. He emphasized that technology will be the driving force in achieving this goal. The adviser said that several key initiatives have been undertaken to develop the technology sector, including exploring and developing the semiconductor industry, reducing internet costs, building modern ICT infrastructure, creating a startup ecosystem, and focusing on artificial intelligence (AI) and other advanced technologies.

Figure 16: Third lead from the City page

Again, the third lead articles are shorter than the other two lead articles. Figure 16 is the third lead from the City page that runs across 1-2 columns and is placed in the bottom of the city page. This one's headlines font size remains equal to the second lead. Not necessarily it will always contain a visual. Editing of this article is being done just like the other two lead articles. Often one quote from the article gets highlighted separately so that it can easily hook readers attention.

Moreover, there are two other unique sections in the City page. These are called conspectus and snippet sections. Conspectus articles are located at the left side of the City page. The conspectus section mostly covers the summary of a larger news article where only accuracy and brevity of news gets the utmost priority for a sub-editor.



Figure 17: Conspectus from the City page

The article used in Figure 17 is an example of the City page Conspectus. A single column solely dedicated to this section. In this one column *The New Nation* covers 3-4 articles. These articles can be of various topics as weather update, campus news, press release news coverage and so on. Sometimes, press releases are also placed in this segment of the city page.

DHAKA SNIPPET

Troubling Rain

Abir's photography exhibition opens

City Desk

Alliance Française de Dhaka (AFD) on Thursday inaugurated 'Troubling Rain', a solo photography exhibition by award-winning photographer and educator Abir Abdullah, at its La Galerie in the capital's Dhanmondi.

The opening ceremony was attended by prominent artist Dhali Al Mamoon, architect Saif Ul Haque, Ekhn TV editorial head Tushar Abdullah, and art critic Moinuddin Khaled, reports UNB.

In the exhibition, Abir captures the contrasting faces of Dhaka's monsoon season, celebrated in Bengali literature for its beauty and romance, yet marked by disruption and hardship. Shot over two decades, his images portray flooded streets, overturned umbrellas, and fragile urban infrastructure under relentless rain, offering intimate glimpses into the resilience of the city's residents.

Abir Abdullah, currently the Photography Workshop Coordinator at AFD, studied at the Bangladesh Photographic Institute and Pathshala, later advancing his skills through global workshops and documentary projects. His career has been recognised with prestigious honours including the Mother Jones International Fund for Documentary Photography and the Alexia Foundation professional grant.

'Troubling Rain' will remain open to visitors until August 23, from Monday to Saturday between 3 pm and 9 pm, at La Galerie, Alliance Française de Dhaka.

Figure 18: Snippet from the City page

In the City page, the snippet section is a special section where only unique columns get placed. Figure 18, is a snippet from the City and these articles are shorter than lead ones however longer than the conspectus article. Often the snippet is separated from the other articles of the City page with a square box shape.

Therefore, this chapter thoroughly discusses the City page of *The New Nation* newspaper and the different segments of it. Different categories of news articles get covered here. All these sections, their placement and editing process are demonstrated elaborately to create a vivid picture of the City page and the activities pursued here.

Chapter - 6

Feature writing

My major responsibility as an editorial assistant at *The New Nation* was writing feature articles. Feature article is a distinct type of news article that contains profound research and descriptive details. Feature articles are soft news that do not showcase crime reports or serious ongoing events. It mostly focuses on human interest, entertainment and analysis based writings that are not bound to the timeliness factor.

“Feature stories are human-interest stories that focus on particular people, places and events.” Feature articles are a special type of content. The topic of feature articles can be anything such as human interest, lifestyle, celebrity profile, how to , social issues, ongoing trends, historical events, food, health, fashion and many more. All these topics like entertainment, food, lifestyle do not fall under the category of hard news so that these articles can be covered at any time of the year. . Unlike other news articles, feature articles can not be completed within 150-200 words only. The general word limit of feature writing is 1200-1500 and in some cases it can be bigger than this. For instance, magazines and special editions of newspapers sometimes publish 2000-3000 word feature articles.

Although hard news follows the inverted pyramid structure where in the first paragraph of the articles need to cover 5W and 1H in the introduction. On the contrary, feature articles do not follow this traditional or conventional news structure. Rather, first paragraphs of feature articles contain compelling anecdotes, thought provoking questions and

vivid descriptive scenarios which easily grab readers attention to read the article . As these articles are noticeably longer than traditional news articles, these articles require days of investigation so that the author can provide readers a comprehensive overview and analysis of that topic.

Unlike hard news, features never leave its readers merely providing a shallow idea on the topic; rather, it dives deeper and immerses the readers into the realm of information. Though it is a non-fiction writing yet in feature content authors are bound to use descriptive vivid words and adjectives using a personal tone so that readers can easily connect the writing with their daily life.

Feature articles contain more imagery and literary devices than any other articles in a newspaper. Depending on the content type, it also includes experts and professionals comments, interviews, quotes ,thoughts of common peoples in it .

During the internship period I wrote feature articles and experienced how feature articles are tailored and how to blend authors personal experience and touch into them. The first feature article was on a human interest genre, based on the struggles of Dhaka's delivery riders. Feature stories are soft news that can not be reported swiftly and demand extra time to complete background research, interviews and observation. Thus, to write that feature article one week's time was given to research on Foodpanda delivery men and others.

As journalists use three tools to gather information for stories : observation, interview and background research, interviewing a Foodpanda rider for the article was a significant part of the data collection. It is mandatory to gather this information from someone who has first-hand experience in this sector so , I acted accordingly and researched about the delivery

It is mandatory to gather this information from someone who has first-hand experience in this sector so, I acted accordingly and researched about the delivery riders and the agencies that Hire them.

Daily battles of Dhaka's delivery riders

Samiha Chowdhury Shoilee

City dwellers often rely on outside food and parcel deliveries—not necessarily due to work constraints, but to escape the monotony of daily life. In this context, one familiar sight has quietly become a symbol of perseverance: the delivery man, the unrecognized superhero of urban Bangladesh.

Clad in branded uniforms and carrying oversized delivery bags, these men race against time through the congested streets of Dhaka. Whether under the scorching sun or through stormy weather, they pedal their bicycles or ride motorbikes to ensure timely delivery of parcels. It's a routine yet remarkable scene across the capital—delivery personnel from companies like Pathao, RedX, and Sundarban Courier Service weaving through traffic, waging a silent war against chaos and delay.

The Bengali poem "Runner" by Sukanta Bhattacharya captures the tireless journey of these messengers, carrying the weight of others' emotions and responsibilities. Today, although letters have mostly vanished, the spirit of the runner lives on—in the form of today's delivery workers.

With the rise of e-commerce and digi-



tal platforms, deliveries have become instant. A single tap on a phone screen can bring food, gadgets, or clothing to your doorstep within hours. Yet, we rarely stop to appreciate the human behind the delivery—a man often exhausted, underpaid, and undervalued.

Delivery companies like Foodpanda, Pathao, SA Paribahan, RedX, eCourier, and Sundarban Courier operate throughout Bangladesh, but their treatment of delivery agents often lacks compassion. Payment structures vary, but most fail to provide fair wages or job security. These jobs come with long hours, mental and physical fatigue, and meager earnings.

Shafikul Alam, a Foodpanda delivery

worker, shared his experience with The New Nation. "I've been working here for nearly six years, but there's been no salary increment. They pay 30–40 taka per delivery. On average, I earn 400 taka daily, and if I'm lucky, it goes up to 700. My monthly income is around 12,000 taka, which is not enough anymore," he said, frustration evident in his voice.

Foodpanda calculates salaries based on delivery distance and time. Pathao, by contrast, pays 40 to 60 taka per delivery, and riders can earn up to 1,000 taka daily, with a monthly income ranging between 15,000 and 20,000 taka. Steadfast pays a fixed 10,000 taka monthly, plus 16 taka per delivery. Paperfly uses a performance-based system: those who complete 95% of their tasks receive 16 taka per delivery, while those under 85% earn just 7 taka per order.

"In a day, I handle 10–12 deliveries," Shafikul added. "But the hardest part is making sure each order reaches the customer on time, especially in this city where traffic jams are a constant. Sometimes customers lose patience and behave rudely, not realizing what we're going through."

(Samiha is working as an Interim Journalist at The New Nation)

Figure 19: Feature on daily battles of Dhaka's delivery riders

To write a professional feature a thorough research of other articles regarding these riders is a must need. The questions were based on background details such as the delivery organisation they are affiliated with, their working hours in different delivery agencies, the facilities they get, their per day wages, day offs and daily struggle. Hence, these are the segments that were highlighted most in the article. Following the code of conduct of journalism the whole interview was taken.

Another feature item was published on August 5 , 2025 on the one year anniversary of the July Uprising. As this day has become a significant part in the history of Bangladesh, like other newspapers, *The New Nation* was interested and considered the notion of publishing a special edition commemorating the special day.

Therefore, another assignment was to cover a feature article by perceiving the July Uprising from a different angle. That article would get published on the special occasion of August 5 . After researching and brainstorming for a number of days about the diverse angles of the July Uprising this angle got the approval. A number of credible sources were provided so that the feature retains authentic information and valuable visuals. Amongst the crowd of generalised topics, due to the special occasion, the special supplement had to get covered with some discrete types of contents and this topic was a perfect suit for that. Accordingly , instead of an essay structure, this one was written as a descriptive feature item attaching the visuals of the key moments capturing mothers of July Uprising.

As this feature was a distinct category of feature which consists of a bunch of pictures that are the peak highlighted moments of the July protesters. In these photographs mothers stood by their children with unwavering determination in their journey of ousting fascist leader Sheikh Hasina. While in such historical events only factual information, political aspects and casualties gets focused, highlighting the neglected aspects of it using a unique perspective falls under the responsibility of a journalist. From a broader political event a feature article can turn it into a human interest content by focusing on grassroot level stories. Focusing on humane aspects of an event and individuals experience makes it a perfect feature article. Mothers whose contribution often get neglected in nation building because of their

limited presence in outer spheres, during this uprising, they are the ones who fought with valour keeping shoulder on shoulder. This feature was a descriptive feature where a few selective pictures along with the context has been elaborated. . Firsthand experiences from witnesses add more credibility in the story. Following that, in this article, I incorporated my own experiences of the July movement period where my mother joined the procession in Narayanganj on July 18, how she safeguarded my sister and chanted slogans amidst the crowd against fascist regime.



Figure 20 : Feature on mothers in July uprising

After the submission of the article, a few specific changes were needed. The first paragraph of a feature article should be compelling enough and filled with vivid descriptive imageries and narrated in a story-like manner. The introductory paragraph carries huge importance and acts as a deciding factor readers will continue their reading further or not in feature writing. Being more specific and inserting more factual information makes the article credible to readers, hence, further changes were made according to those aspects .

Thus, this chapter focuses on feature writing theories and the practical implications faced while working as an editorial intern. Feature articles are non-fiction indeed nonetheless mostly written using the attributions of a literary piece. Among the rigorous articles and systematic structure of a newspaper, features are crafted in a manner that creates a vivid picture in readers mind.

Chapter - 7

Editing

An editorial intern's responsibility is to craft precise cutlines for newspaper photographs, punchy headlines for articles and managing press releases. While writing cutlines, one must adhere to some of its fundamental aspects. These types of contents always uphold the standard of a newspaper and shape public conception regarding a paper standard . Any chance of making a mistake can cost the newspaper its long earned reputation. The methods and rules one must follow while writing cutlines.

During crafting captions, one needs to be careful about the tense and must stick to one tense. If the tense shifts in the following line then it will not be acceptable. Sentences should always be written in active form carefully maintaining the syntax . The widely accepted style in newspaper caption writing is — it should be written in present tense to emphasise on the fact that the event is currently taking place somewhere. Secondly, who, what, where, when, why, how (5W and 1H) must be mentioned beneath every photo caption .

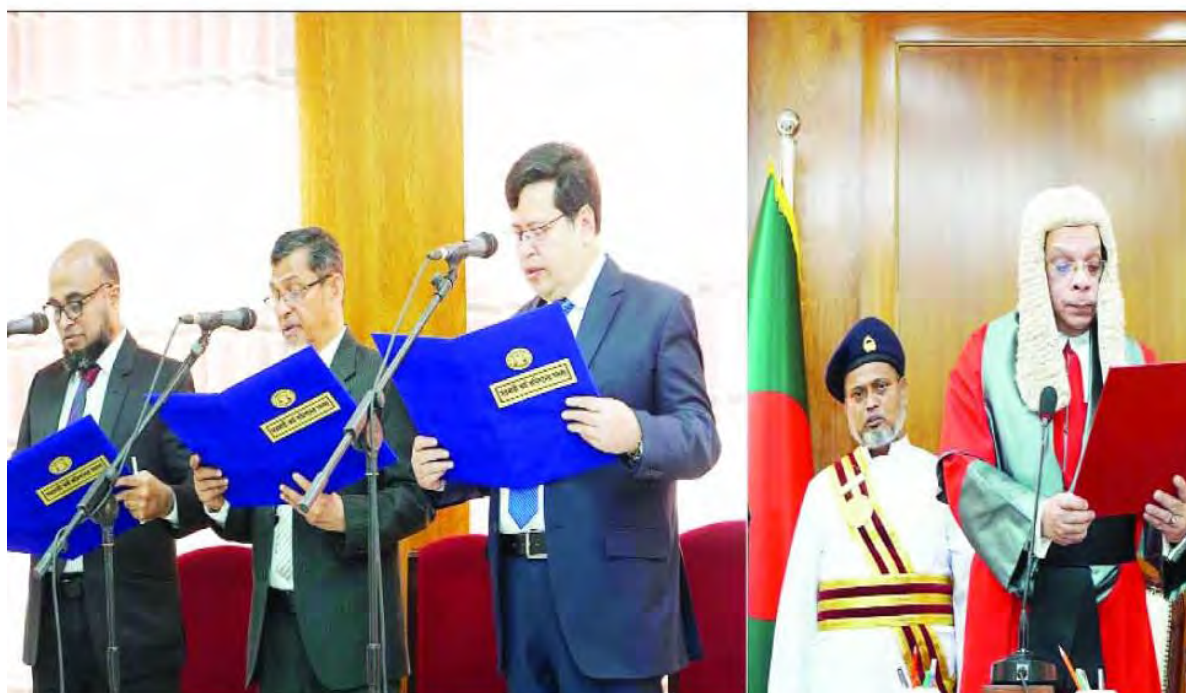
Besides, redundant words and adjectives must be eliminated while writing a cutline. Instead of writing generalized comments or texts in a photo, only specific and pertinent information has to be focused and highlighted . Names of organizations , events and personalities need to be placed meticulously . Facts need to be crosschecked before getting published. As caption writing is formal writing, the wording most often seems different than the general way of demonstrating an incident. Here are some examples -



Ambassador of China to Bangladesh Yao Wen pays a courtesy call on Agriculture Advisor Lieutenant General (retd.) Md Jahangir Alam Chowdhury in the ministry on Wednesday. ■ NN photo

Figure 21: Caption writing

In caption writing, word selection and precise writing is a fundamental part of it. Therefore, while composing the picture caption of Figure 21, instead of using verb phrases like “pays a visit”, the professional manner is to use “pays a courtesy call” or “calls on” in the sentence. Another rule is before the name of government officials, their designated position and other details have to be mentioned accurately considering the sensitivity of their designation. For example - In figure 21, before Jahangir Alam Chowdhury's name his designation has been mentioned.



Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed administers the oath to three newly-appointed members of the Bangladesh P Service Commission (BPSC) at Judges Lounge of Supreme Court in the capital on Sunday. ■ NN p

Figure 22: Caption writing

In Figure 22, the verb phrase “administers the oath” is used in the sentence because any other word selection would be inappropriate in newspaper format.

As newspaper word selection is significantly different from regular English phrases and words. Here are some examples of those where professional words have been used. For instance, instead of using “small talks” between diplomats, editors will use “exchange pleasantries” in cutlines. Rather than using arrests or catches, the word “apprehends” is more encouraged and acceptable in newspaper format. “Asks for” is a casual and simplistic form of word choice in terms of newspaper format, hence using “appeals for or seeks” is better wording to publish in a professional sphere. Instead of phrasing “hosted an event” in political spheres it is appreciated to use “chaired an event or meeting or ceremony” . Having a press meeting is called “briefing the press” . In a scenario, where government officials inspecting a situation

like disaster will be composed by using “takes stock of” phrase. Representatives are called “delegates”, opening ceremonies are called “inauguration ceremony” and formal updates are called “apprise”. An official discussion between two parties is called bilateral talks.



The busy main road beside the Dhaka South City Corporation office has been left in tatters with potholes and dumping of garbages and concrete slabs posing the risk of serious accidents at anytime. The photo was taken from Gulistan area on Wednesday. ■ Photo: Moin Ahmed

Figure 23: Caption writing

Source of the picture and using picture credit is essential while publishing it as a news content. If the scene has been captured by a photographer journalist of the newspaper then the name of the journalist or the organisation name must be mentioned. For example -In Figure 23, at the end of the cutline photo credit is given to the journalist. If the photo has been collected from internet then authors are bound to write “Source - Agency ” and in cases of borrowing

picture from any international press media , the press name has to be mentioned such as, “Source - AFP ”

Crafting cutlines for newspaper photographs is one of the significant tasks of newspapers. Newspapers cover a variety of photographs of different programs and events taking place spontaneously everyday and that piece of photograph becomes a news article on the following day. It is interesting to see how just a piece of a picture becomes news content after adding some textual information beneath it. That piece of visual easily transforms into significant news content and demonstrates a different story and perspective within a few words .

Similar to caption writing, press releases are also written in a concise form by trimming off excess information. Press releases are official statements issued by an organisation to get media coverage and to make a public announcement regarding their event or information. The core objective of press releases is to reach common people to make them aware of their ongoing events and disseminate information about their latest service, milestone, product or occasion using media coverage.

Press releases follow inverted pyramid style where information is covered according to their significance. It will contain a headline, the addressed persona and their designation .The writing will follow a direct manner where the first paragraph will clearly demonstrate the fundamental agenda for issuing this press release. Moreover, the later segments will cover the least significant parts like description of the event, guests and other details of it.

Here is a press release transformed into a news article for the print media of *The New Nation* newspaper.



Figure 24: Press release

In Figure 24, the main information is covered in the first line of the article. The press release is converted here as a news format maintaining preciseness. Generally, press releases contain plenty of information that is unnecessary to mention in news articles because the motto is to reach and disseminate the information to common people. Hence, while converting press releases into news articles, the general news format gets followed. Referring 5W's and 1H, the introductory paragraph has to be written and then the rest of the article is similar to the conventional news. Removing unnecessary information as well as from the press release the news format has to be concise and brief discussion of the topic.

Similar to caption writing, headlines represent the news articles in a concise manner by using powerful words . It may seem like crafting a news article headline is very simple, however there are several significant factors that one needs to maintain while writing it. Although they are short in length and contain only a few words, these headlines hold most of the power of a newspaper and a newspaper's reputation gets decided with the headlines they showcase to the public regularly.

An ideal headline should be written within 6-8 words. Headlines need to be written in present tense so that people understand these phenomena are taking place right now in the country. The sentences should be in active form as passive forms are not acceptable as headlines . Within these few words, the author needs to present the gist of the news article. As printed newspapers have limited space, it is important to utilise every single shred of it properly hence, unnecessary words and articles get omitted.

Auxiliary verbs get removed and instead of using conjunctions like “and”, use of comma(,) is appreciated. Even though, in the eyes of the public, it may seem that these are trivial factors, in reality maintaining this strategy in the newspaper saves a significant amount of space. This method is called telegraphic style where words get trimmed off that are not necessary for understanding. There is another segment of headline that is written below the headline, this one is called, sub-heading. Sub-heading can contain more details and words that a headline cannot cover. Sub-heading underscore headlines by adding more information regarding the article. Punch words ,action verbs and phrases are used to demonstrate the urgency of the news that solely simple words are unable to convey. Here are some examples of it -

SC regains control of subordinate court judges

*Directive issued to establish
secretariat for judiciary*

Staff Reporter

The High Court has delivered a historic verdict restoring the authority of the Supreme Court over the control and discipline of subordinate court judges.

In addition, the verdict directed the establishment of a separate secretariat for the judiciary within the next three months.

The ruling was delivered on Tuesday by a High Court division bench comprising Justice Ahmed Sohel and Justice Debashish Roy Chowdhury.

In the judgment, the court declared the amendment to Article 116 of the Constitution void and reinstated the earlier (1972) position, thereby making the related rule absolute.

Advocate Mohammad Shishir Monir argued on behalf of the writ petitioners, while Attorney General Mohammad Asaduzzaman represented the state. Senior lawyer Sharif Bhuiyan appeared as amicus curiae (friend of the court), and lawyer Ahsanul Karim made submissions as an intervenor.

On August 25 last year, seven Supreme Court lawyers filed the writ petition challenging the validity of Article 116 of the Constitution, the Judicial Service (Discipline) Rules of 2017, and seeking directions for establishing

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Figure 25: Headline

In Figure 25, it is visible that in the headline, there is no auxiliary verb and abbreviated form of Supreme Court is used. The sentence is written in present tense and contains merely six words. Hence, it fulfills all the criteria of being an ideal news headline.

Round-the-clock security for Durga Puja

News Desk

Home Affairs Adviser Lt Gen (retd) Md Jahangir Alam Chowdhury on Monday said that no gathering involving alcohol or drugs will be allowed during the upcoming Durga Puja celebrations, reports UNB.

"During Puja, fairs are often arranged around mandaps where alcohol and drugs are consumed. This year, such fairs will not be permitted, and gatherings involving alcohol or cannabis will be strictly prohibited," he said.

The adviser came up
Contd on page-11- Col-6

Figure 26: Headline

In Figure 26, a unique phrase "Round-the-clock" has been used to make the headline impactful and eye-catching instead of any conventional phrase. Brevity of headline is maintained with utmost priority and unnecessary words and auxiliary verbs are omitted as well.

Nat'l polls to be held as scheduled: Law Adviser

Staff Reporter

The 13th national parliamentary election will take place by February next year as planned, with no possibility of a delay, Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs Adviser Dr Asif Nazrul reaffirmed on Monday.

Speaking to reporters at his ministry, Dr Nazrul stressed that the government remains "firmly committed" to holding the election on schedule. "This position has been repeatedly emphasized by our Chief Adviser. The Election Commission has been instructed accordingly, and all necessary preparations are underway," he said.

Responding to questions about demands from some political parties, including the NCP, for reforms and the completion of trials related to the July uprising before polls, the adviser expressed confidence in the political process. "We have full confidence in the judgment of political parties, including those who supported the July Mass Uprising," he remarked.

When asked whether ongoing political disagreements could obstruct the election,

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Figure 27: Headline

Special phrases are used in headlines to grab readers attention, abbreviations are used in headlines to save up space. For instance, instead of writing the whole word “national”, *The New Nation* format uses “Nat’l”. Instead of using the whole name and title for Chief Advisor Professor Muhammad Yunus , they usually use CA or only Yunus .

Hence, this chapter highlights on the City page related editing assignments. Details of caption writing, headlines editing and press release assignments have been described meticulously throughout the chapter along with relevant examples. Caption writing for photographs and headlines crafting are among those tasks in newspapers where with only few professional words one can create a long-lasting impact over the readers hence, these segments should be carried with adeptness.

Chapter- 8

Theories Application In My Internship Experience

During the undergraduate tenure as a student of media and cultural stream, we did several core courses on media and culture. These courses taught us the methods and theories that we will encounter in the practical world. As for me I wanted to apply all this theoretical knowledge of mine in real life and gather hands-on experience in this sector.

During my internship there were several instances where I found direct and indirect reflection of theories taught in media courses. Their practical implications enhanced my excitement and curiosity about the sector of media and communications. This chapter will elaborate on how I bridged the gap between theory and practice during my internship.

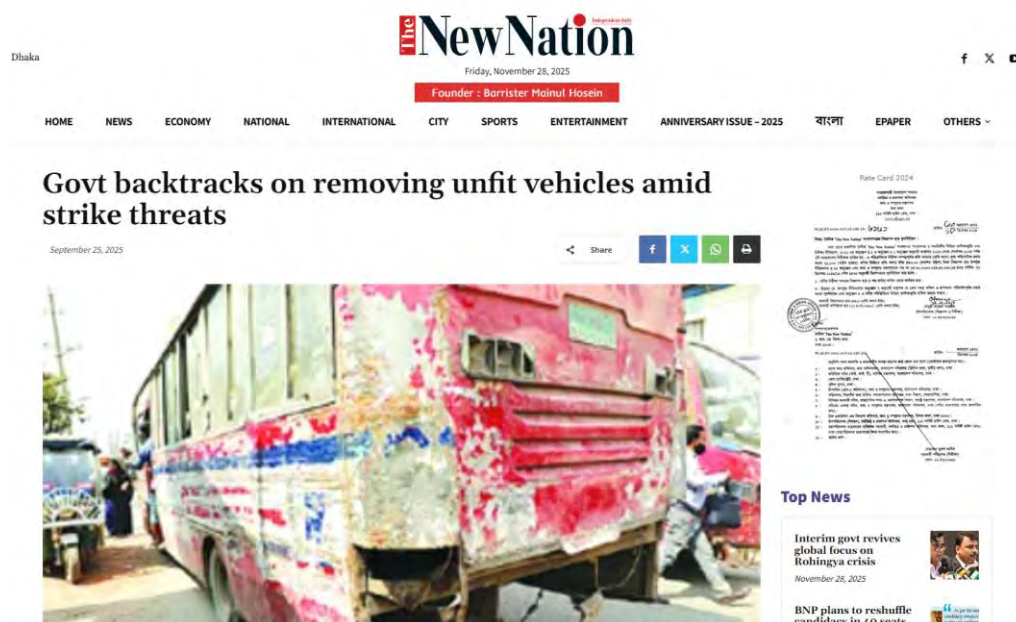


Figure 29 : Translated article from Naya Diganta

Firstly, the theories taught during the Translation Method(ENG465) course, I connected them while translating an article from Naya Diganta news portal. As the article of Figure 29 is a translated version of a Bengali article collected from Naya Diganta news portal, while translating this article, sense for sense translating method has been used. Sense for sense is a translation method where the main theme of a text gets prioritized rather than the literal translation of a language(Hatim and Munday 11). In the Editing course, we have been taught about using inverted pyramid structure for news articles. In this method, information is arranged in a manner where they are organised according to their importance. Hence, the least important parts are placed at the end of an article. I applied this method while translating a news article from a Bengali news news portal. In online news portals do not have space obstructions, details can be added as many as the author wants and article length does not get counted. However, in print media houses, editors need to maintain space limitations ,therefore, a sub-editor's duty is to cover the whole article. So, I reduced the length by curtailing redundant information from the last paragraph of it.

Staff Reporter :

The government has retreated from its plan to remove old and unfit vehicles from city roads, following threats of a nationwide strike by powerful transport owner and worker associations. This decision came following the severe air pollution and public health risks posed by these vehicles.

Dhaka's air is frequently clouded by black smoke, a major contributor to the city's air pollution.

According to report, over 15 per cent of air pollution is caused by these dilapidated vehicles, which pose serious health threats like asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer to residents.

Despite legal provisions that prohibit buses and minibuses older than 20 years, trucks and vans older than 25 years from operating, these vehicles continue to run freely.

This is largely due to the influence of transport associations and irregularities within the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority. Government figures reveal that over 41,000 trucks and vans and nearly 40,000 buses and minibuses are currently past their legal lifespan, many without valid fitness certificates. Government's initiative of last July to launch a crackdown on these unfit vehicles was quickly suspended after transport groups threatened a massive strike.

Surprisingly, the government is now offering new concessions to the owners. The age limit for importing reconditioned buses and trucks has been extended from five to twelve years, and there are plans to provide low-interest loans and tax benefits to owners of old vehicles.

Experts warn that these policy relaxations will deteriorate the situation. Transport analysts argue that if the government continues to prioritize the interests of transport owners over public health, controlling Dhaka's air pollution will be impossible. They also believe that road chaos will not be reduced unless these old vehicles are taken off the market.

Environmentalists underscore lack of good governance and government's history of undermining initiatives due to corruption and pressure from transport lobbies. This results in citizens suffering while no effective, long-term solutions are implemented.

An environmental expert commented, "The biggest culprit for Dhaka's air pollution is black smoke from vehicles and the government should stop unfit vehicles from running right now."

Figure 30: Translated article from Naya Diganta

The second theory I found relatable is the five news value factors taught in the Editing for Print Media course (ENG440). This theory guided me to figure out the newsworthiness of an article. News factors are fundamental traits of a story that determine whether they are publishable or not. The more news value factors an article contains, the more its worth rises (Boukes et al. 99). While sorting news from international and national news portals keeping these five news value factors in mind is a must need. In terms of selecting international news, I considered the “proximity” and “significance” of these two aspects of news (Figure 8). Countries that are geo-politically connected with Bangladesh and the first world countries whose decisions directly affect Bangladesh got paramount importance in the international page.



Figure 31: International article selection

In Figure 31, two articles are represented. Myanmar and the USA, these two countries are geo-politically connected with Bangladesh. Moreover, any decision related to these two

countries can have a direct impact over Bangladesh. Hence, such articles get paramount importance in the international page.

If any prominent national figure, for instance the chief advisor, delivers a speech addressing the country, this news article will fall under the category of “prominence” .

UN coordinator pledges polls support

Staff Reporter

United Nations Resident Coordinator Gwyn Lewis has reaffirmed the UN's ongoing commitment to support the Election Commission of Bangladesh prior to the parliamentary election scheduled early next year.

She came up with the statement while meeting with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus on Thursday at the State Guest House Jamuna in Dhaka.

During the meeting, Lewis praised the strong cooperation between the UN and the Interim Government.

Both sides discussed a wide range of topics on Bangladesh's development priorities and reform agenda of the Interim Government.

However, their conversation, according to CA office, was centered on the upcoming election in Bangladesh.

During this talk, the Resident Coordinator reaffirmed the UN's ongoing commitment to support the

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United Nations Resident Coordinator Gwyn Lewis met with Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna on Thursday. ■ Photo: CA Press Win

Figure 32: National article selection

In Figure 32 , the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh meets with the United Nations Coordinator and gets support from the UN regarding the upcoming national election. Both of them are nationally and internationally prominent figures and had a discussion regarding serious national events . Thus, this will surely have an impact on Bangladesh . Hence, this news falls under the category of prominence and consequence.



Figure 33 : National article selection

Timeliness is another fundamental factor of newsworthiness . Because if news is not disseminated within a specific timeline it loses its significance and so it needs to be delivered on time, otherwise it loses its newsworthiness. For example, if the news of the DUCSU election result was printed later on print media than the exact time , it will lose its relevance among people and the public will be no more interested in that incident.

The third theory is the theory of panopticon from the Cultural Studies course (ENG331) that I found relevant with the internship experience. Theory of panopticon developed by Jeremy Bentham and later extended by Michel Foucault. In this theory Bentham discussed the architecture of a prison. This prison is built in a circular shape and each of the cells of that prison is perfectly visible from the guard tower. However, inmates of that prison will never be able to detect the movement or presence of the guard. Hence, prisoners stay disciplined because they are always being watched by someone. An invisible invigilator is always present among them and this is how the guard tower is an effective method to keep them in order. The motive here is not to punish anyone but to psychologically pressurise people, inflicting a notion inside them that each of their actions are getting noticed so they should act carefully(Ruth). Modern day life is full of these panopticons because to maintain law and order in society, new people use it everywhere and most importantly places like offices and government organisations. It has become a necessary evil of modern life that can not be avoided no matter how much it intrudes public privacy. As *The New Nation's* paper is fully covered with CC TV, suddenly it reminded me of this panopticon theory though, these were kept here for security purposes. If any irregularity or unusual activity happens here, it will be captured by the CCTV.

The last theory I related to my internship tasks is Louis Althusser's ideology. In “Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses” he explained how capitalist society keeps ruling over the working class not only by taking repressive measures but also using ideological influences over them constantly.

In this theory, Althusser discussed ISA (Ideological State Apparatuses) and RSA (Repressive State Apparatuses), these are the two mechanisms a state uses to maintain its power structure. Repressive State Apparatuses is the repressive way of the state to maintain law and order in society for which police, army, constitution all have been formed so that the state can keep citizens under control and detect any irregular activity against the ruling class. Again, ISA is the ideological influence that the state constantly uses as a diversion for the common people and imposes states favourable ideology among them. By instilling these ideologies among citizens, the state creates an invisible control over common people. Different types of social institutions work to establish certain ideologies among people. These institutions are- educational institutions, religious pilgrims, media organisations and so forth (Althusser 80).

As I worked in a newspaper media house, as a part of work ethics I learned about libel suits. Media organisations often face censorship and lawsuits. Even a minor mistake or censored political news can cost a lot to any newspaper organisation. Because once a libel suit gets applied, the state will immediately take legal actions against the media house. Hence, news media censorship can be called a form of RSA.

News media organisations are the institutions of a state through which the elite class generate certain ideologies. Their published news can be considered as a powerful

manipulation for society. Newspapers are considered as the mirror of a society and when its contents get influenced by the ruling class people and stakeholders, it loses its objectivity.

If one notices carefully, he will find out that the front pages of every newspaper in Bangladesh every single day remains covered with political news, political leaders quotes and PM or CA's foreign trip news. On the front page, rather than focusing on critical national problems such as unemployment, increasing crime rate and deteriorating law enforcement management, news related to political parties covers most of the page which is unnecessary and diverts people's mind from other alarming issues. For instance, during the tenure of my internship I was puzzled by the level of coverage and limelight both online and printed news media were giving to the DUCSU election. DUCSU election results were declared on September 9. Surprisingly, DUCSU news was covered by all the newspapers and news media even when the election preparation was going on. As the moment of the election arrived every news media covered it with utmost significance. This election news overshadowed many significant national incidents that should be disseminated with more importance. This type of events getting such limelight from the media is a diversion for general people that distracts them from real problems of society. This is an example of ISA because by highlighting such events while neglecting other pressing events creates an idea among people that above all events like the DUCSU election should be given utmost importance. That is how state organisations influence and mould public ideology and suppress the pressing problems of society.

To conclude, this chapter discusses the theories of media and cultural studies broadly, interconnecting them with the tasks assigned throughout the internship period. Theories encountered among the tasks are being explained using proper examples.

Chapter -9

Conclusion

To conclude, I would like to express that this internship experience of mine was incredible and provided me with numerous opportunities to learn valuable lessons from a team of highly professional and qualified individuals. Being guided and trained by such knowledgeable individuals guided me to learn the true ethics and values of journalism properly. What true journalism means and how it should be carried out professionally with work ethics is something I learned from here.

I would like to express gratitude from the core of my heart to both the organisations — BRAC University and *The New Nation* for letting me have hands-on experience in the media industry. In a way, this internship was my first step towards the career path. While pursuing this internship, not only did I receive technical knowledge of editing in a media house but also came to know different job opportunities in this sector from my senior co-workers. My future prospects become clearer than before. This was the first time I was working in an office environment and witnessing the office culture very closely. How to operate in an office environment maintaining work ethics was a valuable lesson I got to learn from here. During the internship period many adversities came; however, managing them in a professional manner was a huge challenge for me. This tenure made me realise that dealing with such circumstances is also part of my job.

The motto of journalism is to ensure accountability, transparency. In this era of social media, while propaganda and rumours are easy to spread, it is the responsibility of journalists to uphold the truth and disseminate it among people. During the internship, my senior co-workers emphasised on fact accuracy as a nonnegotiable aspect of this profession. Maintaining public integrity and valuing journalism as the fourth estate of a nation requires strong determination and commitment. Everyday I learned something new from here and the lessons I received from here will always remain evergreen in my heart.

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